

# On The Go .....

December 2009

Volume 1, Issue 5

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

On behalf of the Iowa Division of Latino Affairs and Commission, we would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Years. With the winter storms beginning this month we hope that all families enjoy one another's company and that if any travels are planned, may you all arrive and return safely.



Despite fewer numbers expected to hit the roads over Christmas, winter weather can still prove hazardous. Punctures increase over the winter months when the roads are wet, as water and grime lubricate foreign objects making it easier for them to penetrate the tires.

Ensure that you pack essentials for an emergency such as warm clothing and blankets, chocolate, water and a hot drink, de-icer, a torch, first aid kit, tow rope, warning triangle, a map in case of unexpected diversions and a fully charged mobile phone. And always remember to check your car battery.

## Let Us Hear From You

The Polk County Sheriff's Office is requesting assistance from the area community members for donations of Spanish language books to be utilized at the Polk County Jail Facility by the Spanish speaking men and women who have been court ordered to our facility.

Access to books by the inmate population is important to the Polk County Sheriff's Office and Spanish language books/novels are needed.

Unfortunately, with current budget restraints, purchasing new books becomes a lower priority than for example health, safety and security needs of the facility.

Donations of Spanish language books/novels will be greatly appreciated. We request that the donated books/novels be paperback and not overly sexually graphic nor extremely violent. Donated books are being collected at the Iowa Division of Latino Affairs located at 321 E. 12th Street.

Thank You for any assistance.

Detective Joe Haan

Polk County Sheriff's Office



### Upcoming Events:

- HOLA Legal Clinic  
January 11, 2009 5:30 - 7:30p.m.
- Latinos Unidos Meeting  
Dec. 10, 2009 6:00 - 7:00p.m.
- 8th Annual DMC Conference  
Dec. 10-11, 2009 Jordan Creek Marriott in West Des Moines

### Educate Yourself:

- Latinos in Iowa: 2009
- Homestead Tax Credit
- New Americans in the Hawkeye State
- Immigration Detention System Lapses Detailed

# Iowa Youth Congress Celebrates Fourth Successful Year

An impressive group of 76 students from 29 different high schools across the state travelled to the Iowa State Capitol on November 13-14, 2009, to participate in the Iowa Youth Congress. These students took advantage of this unique opportunity to represent their schools, debate bills drafted by their peers, and experience representative government first-hand.

The Iowa Youth Congress members, who were elected by their classmates and teachers, contributed a diverse variety of perspectives, provoking lively and interesting debates on an array of issues. After much formal discussion, both in committees and as a large group, the Congress voted on three bills. These three bills will be refined and presented to the Iowa Legislature in the upcoming session. They are as follows:

- Revision of the Eminent Domain Law in Iowa
- Sign Language (ASL/English) as a Foreign Language Option
- Resolution on Higher Education/Dream Act



The majority of the students asserted that the most empowering element of the event was sitting in the House Chambers and addressing the Congress, just like actual Iowa law-makers. Other students said that the debates and the friendships they formed at the Iowa Youth Congress were very impacting.

During the session, the following students gave speeches and were elected by their peers to the Iowa Youth Congress cabinet:

President: Cameron Griffin Redmond, Iowa City West High School

Vice President: Christian Hurd, Ames High School

Secretary: Vera Zhao, Ames High School

Treasurer: Arti Bhakta, Clinton High School

After the day-long session at the House Chambers, the students attended a College Fair at the Embassy Suites in Des Moines. A number of participating colleges, universities, organizations and businesses provided students with information. Later, the Congress hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dream Forward Dinner, also at the Embassy Suites. At the dinner, sponsors were given special recognition and Ed Barnes, Executive Director of Willkie House, shared an inspiring key-note speech.

To find out more information about the Iowa Youth Congress, visit <http://iyc.latinofairs.iowa.gov/> or contact Heather Stanley at [heather.stanley@iowa.gov](mailto:heather.stanley@iowa.gov).



Members of the 2009-2010 Iowa Youth Congress with Representative Phyllis Thede (center) at the House Chamber on November 13, 2009.

# Census 2010

- ¿Tiene preguntas sobre fechas claves, datos importantes, significado del Censo 2010? Obtenga más información sobre el Censo 2010 [aquí](#).
- Do you have questions regarding key dates, facts and significance of Census 2010? Find out more about Census 2010 [here](#).



## Census 2010 Jobs

- Census 2010 needs thousands of people to fill jobs! Click [here](#).  
\$7.50 - \$12.75 / hr for Census Clerks  
\$11.50 - \$20.00 / hr + mileage for the field positions of recruiting.
- El Censo 2010 tiene más de 1,000 puestos de trabajos abiertos. Clic [aquí](#).  
\$7.50 - \$12.75 X hora para los empleados de oficina  
De \$11.50 a \$20.00 X hora + millas viajadas para las posiciones de contratación.

## Grupo para Padres de Familia

**L.U.N.A. en asociación con EFR ofrecerá clases y apoyo para padres.**

Los temas que se cubrirán en los próximos meses serán los siguientes:

**Las reglas y expectativas de las Escuela Publicas de Des Moines**  
**Las Drogas-Como hablar con sus hijos sobre los peligros/riesgos**  
**Comunicación entre padres e hijos**  
**Disciplina-como lidiar con la rebeldía**  
**Consecuencias legales, derechos y donde buscar ayuda**  
**Enfermedades transmitidas sexualmente y planificación familiar**  
**Diferencias en culturas**  
**Y muchos mas**

**Cuando:** Un Jueves si y un Jueves no de 6pm a 7pm.

|                         |                     |                       |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Diciembre 3 y 17</b> | <b>Enero 7 y 21</b> | <b>Febrero 4 y 18</b> |
| <b>Marzo 4 y 18</b>     | <b>Abril 1 y 22</b> | <b>Mayo 6 y 20</b>    |

**Lugar:** Iglesia Westminster Presbyterian  
4114 Allison Avenida, Des Moines, IA 50310

***Cuidado Infantil será proveído.***

Para inscribirse (no es requerido) o recibir más información por favor llame a Indira al 515-271-5060

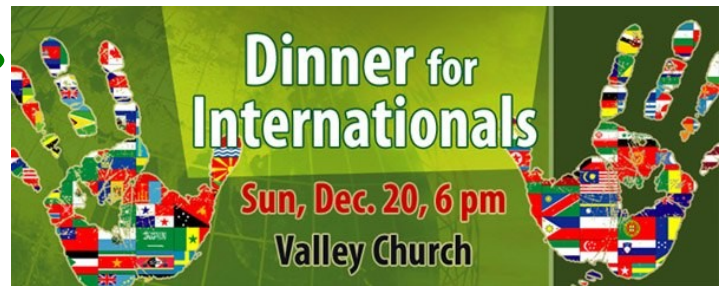




Iowa Division of Latino Affairs  
Lucas State Building  
321 E 12th Street  
Des Moines, IA 50319

Iowa Division of Latino Affairs: On the Go newsletter will be sent monthly with up-to-date information on the agency, activities and upcoming events to keep our constituents informed. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

The Division of Latino Affairs is legislatively mandated to promote and advocate for Iowa Latinos.



You are invited to be our guest Sunday Dec. 20th @ 6pm for a very special International Dinner. Join us for this special event complete with holiday music, and a traditional Christmas meal.

This event is FREE and open to everyone in the community, but a ticket for each person is required. Sign up for a ticket(s) on our website by Sun, Dec 13. Help us spread the word and invite your friends by sharing the information with any internationals you know in the Des Moines area.

For more information contact Valley Church at (515)226-9973 or visiting [www.valley-church.com](http://www.valley-church.com).

## Iowa Legal Aid's Migrant Project

For invitation in Spanish click [here](#).

Free legal help for migrant farm workers and workers in the meat, poultry and egg factories.

Iowa Legal Aid helps low-income persons with civil legal matters. We have staff throughout the state who help workers in the Hispanic community. Many workers have problems that are special to them. Some of these problems are, for example: getting paid the right amount, getting paid on time, not getting the right credit for time worked, improper deductions, problems with the crew leader, problems with housing conditions, family abuse, problems obtaining public benefits like Food Stamps and welfare, problems with taxes, problems transferring benefits between states, problems with discrimination based on race or national origin.

**We do not handle immigration issues.**

To find out if you are eligible for our services please call 1-800-272-0008 or you may visit our website [www.iowalegalaid.org](http://www.iowalegalaid.org) for more information.

For article in Spanish click [here](#).

## Vamos Teen Mag Online

*¡Vamos!* is a free, online teen magazine exploring careers in the transportation industry. (The English-language counterpart is called *Go!*.) Read the first issue of *¡Vamos!* at [www.go-explore-trans.org/index\\_sp.cfm](http://www.go-explore-trans.org/index_sp.cfm).

### What's in *¡Vamos!*?

The first issue of *¡Vamos!* has several articles focused on safety. And look for the "Curriculum connection" sidebar to see how the math and science teens are learning in high school apply to a career in transportation. Each issue has rotating departments focused on a theme.

### Subscribe to the Spanish edition

Anyone can read *¡Vamos!* at any time. The magazine is free (and advertising-free)! Subscribe at [www.go-explore-trans.org/subscribe/index\\_sp.cfm](http://www.go-explore-trans.org/subscribe/index_sp.cfm)

### *¡Vamos!* addresses workforce shortage

It's a big world out there, and it runs on transportation. Many people who work in the transportation industry—engineers, designers, planners, suppliers, manufacturers, construction workers and supervisors—are retiring.

These jobs can't be shipped overseas, and the industry is concerned about filling the workforce. Even though diverse and interesting jobs are readily available, the transportation industry tends to be invisible to teens and to the adults they rely on for career guidance. *¡Vamos!* magazine would like to change that.

### Contact us

For more information, visit [www.go-explore-trans.org/index\\_sp.cfm](http://www.go-explore-trans.org/index_sp.cfm). Or email the editor at [editor@go-explore-trans.com](mailto:editor@go-explore-trans.com).

